



Memorandum

To: Provosts and Chief Academic Officers
From: Paula K. Compton Ph.D., Associate Vice Chancellor
Date: April 12, 2023
Subject: Endorsement Survey: Industry Recognized Credential Assurance Guide (ITAG) in Child Development Associate (CDA)

Background Information: The Ohio Department of Higher Education (ODHE) is reaching out to collect responses from all two- and four-year Ohio public institutions of higher education regarding a proposed alignment for the Industry Recognized Credential Assurance Guide (ITAG) in Child Development Associate (CDA).

The Industry Recognized Credential Transfer Assurance Guide (ITAG) is a statewide transfer initiative that guarantees the award of college-level credit to students earning agreed-upon industry recognized credentials. The ITAG initiative was instituted by the Chancellor in February 2021. Students meeting credentialing requirements, regardless of where the learning was achieved, will be eligible to earn credit for specified courses deemed equivalent by faculty and endorsed by Ohio's public institutions of higher education. As some Career-Technical Assurance Guides (CTAGs) use credentials to align with college credit, ITAGs expand the concept of the value of credentials. To reduce variability across Ohio in the transfer credit evaluation and application process, a set of college-level learning outcomes will be established for each ITAG. The set of learning outcomes, which will be aligned with applicable third-party program accreditation, credentialing, and/or other industry standards, will be vetted by faculty and industry as needed.

Proposed CDA ITAG: The proposed ITAG would align the CDA (Child Development Associate), issued by the Council for Professional Recognition, to college credit for early childhood education associate degree programs that prepare students to work with pre-school aged children. The focus is currently on the preschool specialization of the CDA. This is not an educator preparation pathway.

There are 3 proposed courses for this ITAG. Two of the three courses are existing CTAG courses, Introduction to Early Childhood Education (CTECE001) and Health, Safety, and Nutrition (CTECE002). The third course, (ITECE004) Observation and Assessment, is a newly proposed course for the purpose of this ITAG. This survey asks for the following:

1. Endorsement of the proposed learning outcomes for the new Observation and Assessment course.
2. Endorsement of the alignment of the CDA competency goals and functional areas to the learning outcomes for each of the three courses. For each course, a template lists the learning outcomes in the left-hand column. The aligned standards from the CDA appear in the right-hand column.
3. Endorsement of all 3 courses to become eligible for the ITAG for the CDA credential. If approved, the proposed ITAG would allow students who hold the Child Development Associate certification to be awarded at least 5-6 credit hours, regardless of where the education/training occurred.



Department of
Higher Education

Mike DeWine, Governor
Randy Gardner, Chancellor

Those seeking credit would be required to pass the Council for Professional Recognition's written exam, portfolio review, skills observation, and obtain a certificate. The faculty panel is proposing that institutions award credit for at least two of the three courses for a total of at least 5-6 credit hours. Because curricula vary throughout the state, they proposed this model to allow institutions to award the credit for courses that best align to their curriculum. When possible, institutions are encouraged to award credit for all three courses. Institutions may award credit beyond the 3 identified courses per their own credit for prior learning policies.

Secondary students seeking CTAG credit for Introduction to Early Childhood Education (CTECE001) and Health, Safety, and Nutrition (CTECE002) will not be impacted by this and will continue to access credit by earning a passing score on the aligned end-of-course exams.

What We Need from You: This memo addresses the need for statewide endorsement of the proposed learning outcomes for the Observation and Assessment ITAG course as well as endorsement of the alignment of the CDA competencies to the learning outcomes for Introduction to Early Childhood Education (CTECE001), Health, Safety, and Nutrition (CTECE002), and the proposed (ITECE004) Observation and Assessment. Please forward this memorandum and accompanying attachments to the appropriate faculty. Please have **one person** complete the survey using the link below on or before **April 26, 2023**.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/YJLPZKN>

A copy of the proposed ITAG learning outcomes and alignment is included with this memo for reference. The attached PDF of the survey is for reference only and responses should be submitted using the survey link.

Danette Bosh-Alexander from Stark State Community College and Kelly Hubbard from Cincinnati State Technical and Community College serve as our lead faculty experts and worked with a faculty panel to complete this alignment.

Please contact Nikki Wearly, Director of Career-Technical Education Transfer Initiatives, at nwearly@highered.ohio.gov with any questions.

Thank you for your assistance with this important matter.

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